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U.S. Patent Application No. 10/628,281
Amendment dated October 18, 2007
In Response to the Office Action Dated July 18, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for purifying a fluid sample, the method comprising:

providing a fluidic device having an entry port, a purification column in fluid communication with the entry port, and an output reservoir in fluid communication with the purification column;

providing the purification column with a purification material saturated with diluent, and excess diluent;

moving the excess diluent from the purification column into the output reservoir to provide a removed diluent in the output reservoir and to provide the purification material free of excess diluent;

introducing the fluid sample into the purification column through the entry port;

moving the fluid sample through the purification column and into the output reservoir after moving the excess diluent into the output reservoir, to provide a purified sample in the output reservoir; and

mixing the purified sample with the removed diluent in the output reservoir.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein moving the excess diluent includes generating a moving force.

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3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the moving force includes a centripetal force.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the moving force includes a hydraulic force.
5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the moving force includes a pneumatic force.
6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein moving the fluid sample includes generating a second moving force.
7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the second moving force includes a centripetal force.
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the second moving force includes a hydraulic force.
9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the second moving force includes a pneumatic force.

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10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the fluid sample includes a biological sample.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the fluid sample includes a nucleic acid sequence.
12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the excess diluent is moved through the purification ~~chamber~~ column before the fluid sample is introduced into the purification column.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the purification column with the purification material saturated with diluent, and the excess diluent, comprises filling the purification column with the purification material saturated with diluent, and adding excess diluent to the column.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the purification column with the purification material saturated with diluent, and excess diluent, comprises filling the purification column with a mixture of saturated purification material and excess diluent.
15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the purification column with purification material comprises adding the purification material to the column through the entry port.

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16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the purification material comprises size-exclusion particles.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the purification material comprises size-exclusion ion-exchange particles.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the sample is contacted with the purification material for at least one minute.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprises subjecting the sample to a polymerase chain reaction prior to introducing the fluid sample into the purification column.

20. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprises subjecting the sample to a sequencing reaction prior to introducing the fluid sample into the purification column.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising subjecting the purified species mixed with the removed diluent, to capillary electrophoresis.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the fluid sample includes chloride ions and the method includes ion-exchanging the chloride ions in the purification column.

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23. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the fluidic device is a microfluidic device.

24.-32. (Canceled)

33. (New) A method for purifying a fluid sample, the method comprising:

providing a fluidic device having an entry port, a purification column in fluid communication with the entry port, and an output reservoir in fluid communication with the purification column;

providing the purification column with a purification material saturated with diluent, and excess diluent;

moving the excess diluent from the purification column into the output reservoir to provide a removed diluent;

introducing the fluid sample into the purification column through the entry port;

moving the fluid sample through the purification column and into the output reservoir to provide a purified sample in the output reservoir; and

mixing the purified sample with the removed diluent in the output reservoir,

wherein moving the excess diluent includes generating a moving force and the moving force includes a centripetal force.